

DEERS verification changes for not remarried former spouses

The Social Security number (SSN) used to verify TRICARE eligibility in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) for not remarried former spouses is changing.

Starting Oct. 1, 2003, DEERS will reflect TRICARE eligibility for these beneficiaries using the not remarried former spouse's own SSN and not the former sponsor's. Health care information will be filed under the not remarried former spouse's own SSN and name. These beneficiaries will now use their own name and SSN to schedule medical appointments and to file TRICARE claims.

The current Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card, DD Form 1173, held by the not remarried former spouse is still valid until it expires. Upon renewal, the not remarried former spouse will be issued a replacement Department of Defense/Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card, DD Form 2765.

The Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office is sending a letter to all beneficiaries affected by this change.

The letter explains the new DEERS eligibility verification procedures and serves as official notification from DoD regarding this change. The letter does not, however, provide proof of continued eligibility for TRICARE health care benefits.

After Oct. 1, 2003, not remarried former spouses may contact or visit the nearest identification card issuing facility (locations may be found online at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl) for questions or assistance.

Not remarried former spouses should always keep their DEERS information current and up-to-date. For questions regarding their medical records, they should contact the Military Treatment Facility and medical records department where their DoD medical records are stored.

SOURCE: AFRetire news release dtd 20 Sep 03